

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A laminate cartridge comprising:
- a) a housing having one or more slots therein;
 - b) a core with one or more teeth capable of engaging the housing slot such that when the core is raised in the slot, the core is disengaged from the housing; and
 - c) a spool of laminate carrying donor comprising a substrate layer and an overcoat layer wound on the core;
2. The laminate cartridge of claim 1 further comprising one or more teeth such that the teeth do not protrude beyond the perimeter of the core.
3. The laminate cartridge of claim 1 further comprising a guide bar supported by the housing such that the guide bar is capable of guiding the laminate carrying donor as it moves from the housing.
4. The laminate cartridge of claim 2 further comprising a handle attached to the housing.
5. The laminate cartridge of claim 4 comprising a second housing supporting a second core such that the substrate layer is wound on the second core forming a second spool.
6. The laminate cartridge of claim 5 further comprising a second guide bar supported by the second housing such that the second guide bar is capable of guiding the substrate layer toward the second housing.
7. The laminate cartridge of claim 6 further comprising a second handle attached to the second housing.

8. The laminate cartridge of claim 7 further comprising a one or more teeth in cooperation with a tooth repository such that the repository engages the teeth in such a way that the teeth do not disengage prematurely.

9. The laminate cartridge of claim 8 in which ergonomic design of the laminate cartridge is optimized by selective placement of a hook on one of a first or second housing to allow the two housings to be selectively attached to each other to further minimize forces on a person carrying and loading the laminate cartridge.

10. An overcoat application apparatus comprising:

a) a laminate cartridge comprising a housing having one or more slots and a donor core with one or more teeth capable of engaging the housing slot such that when the core is raised in the slot, the core is disengaged from the housing;

b) a spool of laminate carrying donor, comprising a substrate layer and an overcoat layer, wound on the donor core;

c) an entry roller for accepting printed media from a printer

d) a donor guide bar that guides the laminate carrying donor into a nip formed by a heated fuser roller and a pressure roller;

e) a heated fuser roller which is used to transport the printed media and the laminate carrying donor through the nip and apply heat to the laminate carrying donor and the printed media;

f) a pressure roller engaging the fuser roller in order to produce a mechanical nip;

g) a peel bar which is used to separate the support layer of the laminate carrying donor from the printed media that is coated with the overcoat material that was transferred from the donor in the nip;

h) an exit roller which accepts the overcoated printed material and transports it to the next required process station; and

i) a take-up spool that collects the substrate layer plus any unused overcoat material.

11. The laminate cartridge of claim 11 further comprising one or more teeth such that the teeth do not protrude beyond the perimeter of the core.

12. The overcoat application apparatus of claim 11 further comprising a guide bar supported by the housing such that the guide bar is capable of guiding the laminate carrying donor as it moves from the housing.

13. The laminate cartridge of claim 12 further comprising a handle attached to the housing:

14. The overcoat application apparatus of claim 13 comprising a second housing supporting a second core such that the substrate layer is wound on the second core forming a second spool.

15. The overcoat application apparatus according to claim 14 further comprising a second guide bar supported by the second housing such that the second guide bar is capable of guiding the substrate layer toward the second housing..

16. The overcoat application apparatus of claim 15 further comprising a second handle attached to the second housing.

17. The overcoat application apparatus of claim 16 further comprising one or more teeth in cooperation with a tooth repository such that the repository engages the teeth in such a way that the teeth do not disengage prematurely.

18. The overcoat application apparatus of claim 17 in which ergonomic design of the laminate cartridge is optimized by selective placement of a hook on one of a first or second housing to allow the two housings to be selectively attached to each other to further minimize forces on a person carrying and loading the laminate cartridge.